

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 EURE-00 /072 W  
-----311912Z 009447 /43

P R 311650Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 503  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
USMISSION NATO  
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, SP  
SUBJECT: "CORTES" PRESIDENT SUBMITS RESIGNATION, WILL STAY ON AT THE  
HEAD OF THE MORIBUND PARLIAMENT UNTIL AFTER ELECTIONS

REF: MADRID 8814-76

1. CORTES (PARLIAMENT) PRESIDENT TORCUATO FERNANDEZ-  
MIRANDA, WHO BY VIRTURE OF THIS APPOINTIVE POSITION IS ALSO  
EX OFFICIO PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REALM, TOLD  
MEMBERS OF THE PRESS TODAY THAT HE HAD SUBMITTED HIS  
RESIGNATION TO THE KING ON MAY 23 AND THAT THE KING HAD  
ACCEPTED IT LAST NIGHT (MAY 30). HE HAD AGREED TO THE KING'S  
REQUEST, HOWEVER, THAT HE STAY ON UNTIL AFTER THE JUNE 15  
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ELECTIONS.

2. FERNANDEZ-MIRANDA'S RESIGNATION CLEARS THE WAY FOR THE  
ELECTION BY THE POST-JUNE 15 CONGRESS OF DEPUTIES (LOWER  
HOUSE) AND SENATE (UPPER HOUSE) OF THEIR RESPECTIVE  
PRESIDENTS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLITICAL REFORM LAW  
APPROVED BY THE DECEMBER 15, 1976 REFERENDUM (REFTEL).

BUT IT DOES NOT NECESSARILY RULE HIM OUT AS A POSSIBLE FUTURE PRESIDENT OF THE FULL "CORTES" (I.E., BOTH CHAMBERS), A POST WHICH, UNDER THE RULE STILL IN EFFECT, WOULD BE FILLED (IF IT WERE NOT LEFT VACANT) BY APPOINTMENT OF THE KING AND WHOSE INCUMBENT WILL CONTINUE ALSO BE EX OFFICIO PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REALM.

3. FERNANDEZ-MIRANDA BECAME THE LIGHTENING ROD LAST WEEK FOR CRITICISM FROM MANY OPPOSITION QUARTERS -- IN PARTICULAR ALIANZA POPULAR, THE RUIZ GIMENEZ/GIL ROBLES CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS AND THE SOCIALISTS (PSOE AND PSP) -- WHEN HE REPORTEDLY MADE STATEMENTS TO THE PRESS ABOUT THE FUTURE CORTES WHICH SEEMED TO IMPLY A CONTINUING ROLE FOR HIM AT THE HELM. ALTHOUGH HE INDICATED IN HIS REMARKS TODAY THAT HIS RESIGNATION PRE-DATED LAST WEEK'S CONTROVERSY, THE TIMING OF TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENT, AT LEAST, MAY INDEED BE RELATED TO IT. THAT CONTRETEMPS ALSO IS A REMINDER THAT THE KING'S APPOINTIVE POWERS AND THE ROLES OF SUCH INSTITUTIONS AS THE COUNCIL OF THE REALM ARE CERTAIN TO BE MUCH AT ISSUE IN THE COMING PARLIAMENT.

4. FERNANDEZ-MIRANDA, AN INTIMATE OF THE KING, IS CONSIDERED BY MOST OBSERVERS A SURE BET TO BE AMONG THE AS MANY AS 41 SENATORS WHICH THE KING IS EMPOWERED BY THE POLITICAL REFORM BILL TO APPOINT TO THE NEWLY CONSTITUTED UPPER HOUSE. STABLER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MADRID04203  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Message ID:** 31cd428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 MADRID 8814  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** \"CORTES\" PRESIDENT SUBMITS RESIGNATION, WILL STAY ON AT THE HEAD OF THE MORIBUND PARLIAMENT UNTIL AFTER ELECTIONS  
**TAGS:** PINT, SP, (FERNANDEZ-MIRANDA, TORCUATO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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